Case 2:13-cr-00073-JCM-CWH Document 1 Filed 02/26/1 FEB 2 6 2013 DANIEL G. BOGDEN 1 United States Attorney District of Nevada **UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE** KIMBERLY M. FRAYN DISTRICT OF NEVADA ANDREW W. DUNCAN BY_ DEPUTY 3 Assistant United States Attorneys 333 Las Vegas Boulevard South 4 Suite 5000 Las Vegas, Nevada 89101 702-388-6336 5 6 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 7 DISTRICT OF NEVADA 8 -oOo-9 10 CRIMINAL INDICTMENT UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, 11 2:13-cr-073 Plaintiff. **VIOLATIONS:** 12 VS. 18 U.S.C. §§ 1344 and 1349 - Conspiracy to 13 MICHAEL LOFTON, Commit Bank Fraud; 18 U.S.C. § 1028A - Aggravated Identity 14 Theft; and 18 U.S.C. § 2 – Aiding and Abetting Defendant. 15 THE GRAND JURY CHARGES THAT: 16 **COUNT ONE** Conspiracy to Commit Bank Fraud 17 18 From a date unknown, but not later than December 14, 2012, until on or about 1. 19 January 31, 2013, in the State and Federal District of Nevada, and elsewhere, 20 MICHAEL LOFTON, 21 defendant herein, did knowingly, unlawfully agree, confederate, and conspire with others known 22 and unknown to commit Bank Fraud, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1344, 23 and 1349. 24

Objective of the Conspiracy

- 2. The principle objective of the conspiracy was to devise a scheme and plan to unlawfully and fraudulently obtain monies and other property owned by and under the custody and control of Bank of America, a federally insured financial institution, by unlawfully transferring, possessing, and using bank account holders' personal and financial identifiers and other means of identification, and by using unauthorized access devices to fraudulently obtain goods and merchandise.
- 3. It was further part of the scheme and plan to transport stolen and fraudulently obtained goods and merchandize between states, to receive possess, store, conceal, and sell stolen and fraudulently obtained goods and merchandise in interstate commerce, and to utilize the wires and the mails in furtherance of the criminal enterprise.
- 4. It was further part of the scheme and plan to obtain United States currency by unlawful selling the fraudulently obtained goods and merchandise for the personal benefit of defendant MICHAEL LOFTON and his co-conspirators.

Manner and Means

- 5. The manner and means by which the objective of the conspiracy was accomplished included, but were not limited to, the following:
- 6. It was part of the scheme and artifice that defendant MICHAEL LOFTON and his coconspirators, by and through use of the interstate wires, knowingly and with the intent to defraud, did unlawfully transfer, and cause others to transfer, and did unlawfully possess and cause others to possess, stolen and otherwise unauthorized personal and financial identifiers belonging to financial institutions' account holders, without those account holders' knowledge and consent. For example, on or about December 30, 2012, defendant MICHAEL LOFTON and his coconspirators did unlawfully obtain, by way of the internet, Bank of America account holder

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P.S.'s personal and financial information, including but not limited to, P.S.'s name and credit card account number ending in X-2188, without P.S.'s authorization.

- 7. It was further part of the scheme and artifice that defendant MICHAEL LOFTON and his coconspirators did use and did cause others to use, by and through use of the interstate wires, stolen and otherwise unauthorized personal and financial identifiers belonging to financial institutions' account holders, to fraudulently obtain goods and merchandise for their own personal gain and in furtherance of the criminal conspiracy. For example, on or about December 30, 2102, defendant MICHAEL LOFTON and his co-conspirators did unlawfully purchase merchandise, that is, a Kindle Fire HD, by and through use of the interstate wires, via the internet, from Amazon.com, an innocent third party merchant, using Bank of America account holder P.S.'s personal and financial information and other means of identification, including but not limited to, P.S.'s name and credit card account number ending in X-2188.
- 8. It was further part of the scheme and artifice that the defendant MICHAEL LOFTON and his coconspirators did cause innocent third party merchants to transfer, ship, and otherwise cause to be transported, in interstate commerce and by way of the mails, stolen and fraudulently obtained goods and merchandise to a mail drop location in the Las Vegas, Nevada, area, which defendant MICAHEL LOFTON and his coconspirators believed to be under their dominion and control. Thereafter, defendant MICHAEL LOFTON and his coconspirators did intend to unlawfully sell and cause others to unlawfully sell the fraudulently obtained goods and merchandise to obtain money for their own personal financial gain, and the benefits of others.

All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1344 and 1349.

COUNT TWO

Aggravated Identity Theft

- 1. The factual allegations of Count One of this Indictment are incorporated by reference.
- 2. On or about on December 30, 2012, in the State and Federal District of Nevada and elsewhere,

MICHAEL LOFTON

defendant herein, aiding and abetting others, did knowingly transfer, possess and use without lawful authority, means of identification of another person, to wit: Bank of America account holder P.S.'s personal and financial information and other means of identification, including but not limited to, P.S.'s name and credit card account number ending in X-2188, during and in relation to a specified felony enumerated in Title 18 United States Code, Section 1028A(c), to wit: Wire Fraud, a violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1343.

All in violation of Title 18 United States Code, Section 1028A and Title 18, United States Code, Section 2.

DATED: this <u>26</u> day of February, 2013

A TRUE BILL:

FOREPERSON OF THE GRAND JURY

DANIEL G. BOGDEN
United States Attorney

KIMBEKLY M. FRAYA ANDREW W. DUNCAN

Assistant United States Attorneys